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# UCAPAWA News

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VOL. II.—NO. 7 NOVEMBER 17, 1941

# HISTORIC CIO CONVENTION OPENS

**UCAPAWA OFFICERS:** Members of UCAPAWA Executive Board are seated in the front row (l. to r.), Vice-Presidents Clyde Johnson and Owen H. Whitfield, Secretary-Treasurer Harold J. Lane, President Donald Henderson, and Vice-Presidents Conrad Espe and Armando Ramirez. Vice-President Dixie E. Tiller, the other member of the Board, is not in the picture. Standing are the Executive Board Alternates, Trustees and Advisory Board.

## DELEGATES FROM UCAPAWA ACTIVE

### Build Ever Bigger CIO To Defeat Fascism and To Improve Conditions

**Chicago, Ill., Nov. 12.—Delegates from all the CIO unions will meet in the Fourth Annual CIO Convention starting Nov. 17 in Detroit, Mich.**

**The CIO more than any other group in the United States is aware of the threat to our free way of life and is determined to stop the onward march of Fascism, both at home and abroad.**

**The CIO is determined to build such a strong industrial organization that the CIO will be an invincible bulwark against those who would lower our living standards and take away the right of free Americans to fight steadily for a better life.**

#### UCAPAWA DELEGATES

Representing UCAPAWA at the CIO Convention will be President Donald Henderson, Secretary-Treasurer Harold Lane, Vice-Presidents Conrad Espe, Clyde Johnson, Armando Ramirez, Dixie E. Tiller, O. H. Whitfield and Executive Board Alternate Clyde De Good.

President Henderson is a member on Officers' Reports which goes into session five days ahead of the Convention.

#### UCAPAWA EXHIBITS

UCAPAWA is giving out at the Convention our Directory of Union-Made Products enclosed in a colorful folder on union-made cigars.

Delegates will also receive fine cigars contributed by the managements of our organized plants.

A leaflet with pictures telling of the life and work of our Southern Agricultural locals will call the attention of the delegates to the importance of all CIO members supporting these sharecroppers and cotton wage workers.

A four foot by six foot display picturing the UCAPAWA Divisions against a map of the United States, all in bright colors, will be on the Convention floor.

#### NEWS OF ACTIVITIES

Full reports of the part played by UCAPAWA delegates in the CIO Convention will be carried in the next issue of this paper.

Order extra copies of UCAPAWA NEWS, if your local has not already attended to this matter, so that the members will get the important news of this Convention. Orders must be in by Nov. 27.

## CONSOLIDATES GAINS

### 65 DELEGATES PLOT FUTURE; UNANIMOUS TO CRUSH HITLER

Camden, N. J., Nov. 9.—First conference of the Tobacco Division of UCAPAWA met here this week-end with some 65 delegates attending and representing 7,950 members in tobacco plants ranging from New Orleans to the Deisel-Wemmer-Gilbert factories in Ohio and Michigan, to the Eastern cigar plants including the big Consolidated plant here.

**In opening the conference Donald Henderson, UCAPAWA President, pointed out that "time doesn't wait," that now is the big opportunity for tobacco workers to complete the job of building a powerful union.**

#### ORGANIZE NOW

The conference dug its teeth into the problem, taking stock of the rapid gains in contracts and new organizing in recent months, as well as laying plans for pushing ahead in open shop plants such as Hayuk in Philadelphia and in unorganized centers such as Trenton, N. J. and Evansville, Indiana.

**Today 8,021 tobacco workers are under UCAPAWA contract, an increase of 716% over December, 1940, when 990 were covered by contract. Chief concentration point at the present time is cigars.**

#### AFL FAILURE

CIO Regional Director E. L. Sandefur from North Carolina sketched the situation in the cigarette industry where the AFL failed to build adequate unions.

Outstanding example is the R. C. Reynolds plant in Winston Salem where the 15,500 workers are without union protection in spite of various attempts which have been made to organize under AFL "leadership."

#### CRUSH HITLER

Recognizing that unions will mean nothing if Hitler is victorious the conference voted full support to Roosevelt's foreign policy to "defeat Hitler," calling specifically for repeal of the Neutrality Act.

In the course of the discussion President Henderson underlined the immediate Hitler threat by showing that "every time Hitler advances, those people who want to crush labor push ahead a step here at home."

**"If Hitler wins over there we are in for a permanent military machine," said Henderson, and under the guise of having 'to do business with Hitler,' American standards would be lowered to the fascist level of poverty and slavery.**

#### TALK NOT ENOUGH

Harold Lane, UCAPAWA Secretary-Treasurer, urged the delegates not just to pass resolutions, but to act.

**"It's better to give a pint of blood now than to die later," said Lane. "We must get our backs into the fight now and each and every one of us help in practical ways before it is too late."**

**Chicago, Ill.**—Locals 1, 47 and 194 are cooperating with their joint Chicago Organizing Committee in a Christmas Party to be held Dec. 20 for the benefit of the children and members and friends.

Besides giving everybody a good time the Party will raise finances for the organizing work in Chicago.

## Executive Board in Session

*Chicago, Ill., Nov. 12.—UCAPAWA Executive Board is meeting in Detroit Sunday, Nov. 16, the day preceding the CIO Convention and between sessions of the Convention the following week.*

*All important UCAPAWA questions will be taken up at this time, including discussion of the big organization drive now on in all Divisions of UCAPAWA.*

*Members of the Executive Board are President Donald Henderson, Secretary-Treasurer Harold Lane, and Vice-Presidents Conrad Espe, Clyde Johnson, Armando Ramirez, Dixie E. Tiller, and O. H. Whitfield.*

## BIG NEWS FROM MEMPHIS, TENN.

### Memphis Oil Strike Settled with Pact

(See Page 7)

### Buckeye Votes UCAPAWA

(See Page 7)

### Closed Shop Contract

(See Page 3)

More Tobacco Conference stories and pictures on page 5

## Henderson Delegate to Mexico City

**Chicago, Ill., Nov. 12.—Donald Henderson, UCAPAWA President has been invited to attend the Congress of the Latin Federation of Labor opening in Mexico City, Mexico, on November 21.**

**Lombardo Toledano, President of the Federation, telegraphed "YOUR PRESENCE UTMOST VALUE DUE GREAT SIGNIFICANCE CONGRESS."**

**In this Congress of the powerful Latin American labor movement, unity of workers in the fight against Fascism will be welded.**

**Brother Henderson will be able to encourage our trade union brothers in Central and South America and will bring to them a message of solidarity from workers in the United States.**

## Marshall Ups Pay

Marshalltown, Iowa, Nov. 10—Marshall Canning workers have won wage increases ranging from 12½% for the lower paid workers to 5% for the higher paid brackets, according to International Representative Ed. Nix.

Negotiations were led by Robert Nutter, newly elected President of Local 166.

**Since organizing in 1937 this local has raised wages 25 to 30%.**

### STRIKE THREATENS!

**Patience of Suffolk peanut workers is about exhausted.**

**Only a nation-wide protest to peanut companies will avert a general strike in the Suffolk, Va., peanut industry.**

**POST CARDS NOW MAY SAVE STRIKE DONATIONS LATER.**

**HEED THE CALL OF THE PEANUT WORKERS FOR YOUR HELP. SEE PAGE 2.**

## Royal Packing Goes UCAPAWA

Los Angeles, California, Nov. 4.—Collective bargaining rights were won today by UCAPAWA, Local 3, at the Royal Packing plant here by a Labor Board vote of 196 to 112.

**"This is an important push forward in the Los Angeles organizing drive," according to Luisa Moreno, UCAPAWA Representative, "and will encourage cannery workers, especially in the big Mission Packing Co., to join up with UCAPAWA-CIO."**

—Photo by Arthur Wiener

## AFL-CIO SPONSORED SMASH HITLER RALLY: Thirty-five Thousand Trade Unionists jammed Madison Square Park N. Y. to Hear prominent speakers, including Mayor LaGuardia, assail fascism and call for the opening of a Western Front.

# Army Seeks Friends for Boys in Army

By *John Lambert, International Representative.*

Indianapolis, Indiana.—At the request of Captain Condors, head of the Personnel at Fort Benjamin, just outside Indianapolis, all CIO representatives in Indiana met with him recently to work out means of cooperation.

### FUN ON WEEK-ENDS

The CIO membership was requested to help in taking care of the social activities of the soldiers on their week-ends.

The plan was to match the different boys with the type of home they were accustomed to.

### BOYS HOMESICK

An example of how this can be done was cited. A boy from Dakota stationed at Fort Harrison seemed to be homesick for the Dakota atmosphere. A Women's Club was contacted and a woman from Dakota was found who invited the boy to her house and there was a noted improvement in the boy's actions after that.

### INVITE SOLDIERS

Captain Condors also asked us to see that any social events we held should have soldiers present. This is not to be done from a charity idea in mind. The purpose is to make the boys feel proud that they are in the uniform of an American soldier and not to be ashamed of it, as seems to be the case unfortunately in many instances at the present time.

# NEW LOCALS

## Fruit and Vegetable Processing

**LOCAL 31, St. Joseph, Michigan. September 27, 1941.**
**Otto Pribbernow, President, 1041 McCallister St. Benton Harbor, Michigan.**
**Company: Williams Bros. Box Co.**

## Dairy Division

**LOCAL 38, Muncie, Indiana. Originally formed Nov. 16, 1938. UCAPAWA Charter Oct., 1941.**
**Merrill Brown, President, 218 North Elm Street.**

**LOCAL 39, Shelbyville, Indiana, October 23, 1941.**
**Floyd Angleton, President, 925 Elm Street.**
**Company: Page Milk Company.**

## Cigar and Tobacco Division

**LOCAL 69, Lima, Ohio. Originally formed May 17, 1941; UCAPAWA Charter Oct., 1941.**
**Elizabeth Tarbutton, President, 407½ E. McKibben Street,**
**Company: Deisel-Wemmer-Gilbert Corporation.**

**LOCAL 71, Van Wert, Ohio. Originally formed June 8, 1941; UCAPAWA Charter Oct., 1941.**
**Nellie Agler, President, 845 Allingham Street.**
**Company: Deisel-Wemmer-Gilbert Corporation.**

**LOCAL 72, Findlay, Ohio. Originally formed July 15, 1941; UCAPAWA Charter Oct. 1941.**
**Don Crates, President, 1813 Washington Avenue.**
**Company: Deisel-Wemmer-Gilbert Corporation.**

**LOCAL 73, St. Marys, Ohio. Originally formed July 9, 1941; UCAPAWA Charter Oct., 1941.**
**Isabelle Silver, President, 537 North Front Street.**
**Company: Deisel-Wemmer-Gilbert Corporation.**

## Cotton Compress

**LOCAL 98, North Little Rock, Arkansas, October 25, 1941.**
**J. A. Moore, Treasurer, c/o Otis Nation, P. O. Box 531.**

## CIO PLEDGE

Local 58 in Detroit opens its meetings with this pledge:

*I pledge allegiance to the CIO,*
*To the principles for which it stands,*
*Unity, Faithfulness, Solidarity Forever.*

**REMEMBER the Union Members in the Army and Navy: Send their names and addresses to UCAPAWA NEWS so they will get this paper. Forward stories to UCAPAWA NEWS about what your local is doing for the boys. The NEWS will also gladly print letters telling about life in Army camps.**

# Peanut Workers In Showdown; Need Support

**Chicago, Ill., Oct. 28.—All UCAPAWA Locals were asked to help in the drive to improve the conditions of peanut workers in Suffolk, Virginia which has just been opened by Local 26. The request to all Local Unions from the International Office explained why the peanut workers need our 100 per cent support and how we can give them this support.**

### NOTIFY COMPANIES

Here is the story:

Local 26 through International Representative Bob Himmaugh asks all UCAPAWA Locals and other CIO Unions to let the peanut companies know that they are behind the peanut workers in their demands for union conditions.

Wires and letters from unions and post cards from CIO members should be sent to the follwing companies:

Suffolk Peanut Co., American Peanut Co., Lummis Peanut Co., and Pond Bros. Peanut Co., all of Suffolk, Va. (Address simply: Suffolk, Va.)

Copies of communications should be sent to Local 26, UCAPAWA, 327 East Washington St., Suffolk, Va.

### SHOW-DOWN NOW

"We are forced to call a showdown in this industry this Fall," states International Representative, Bob Himmaugh. "The workers have become Union minded and educated in spite of the intimidation they have faced from the peanut companies."

**Chief demands of UCAPAWA are for a 5c per hour general wage increase, modified Union Shop and check-off.**

### TERRIBLE PAY

**"Most of this work is done by Negro women and they have been working in split shifts five and six hours a day," Himmaugh explains, "and we have never been able to raise the wages above the Wage Hour minimum of 30c per hour. Before the Wage Hour law was passed pay was 10c per hour.**

### OPEN SHOP CONDITIONS

**"The contracts at present are all open shop with dues not being allowed to be collected on company time or even on company property."**

# Letter from The Editor

*Dear Brothers and Sisters:*

*UCAPAWA NEWS staff is slowly but steadily building up.*

*In addition to the 16 local union press agents announced in the last issue of the NEWS, we now have Eleanor Shults from Local 31, Joseph Tait, Local 80, Louis F. Jedlicka, Local 110, Jim Dimitrius, Local 194 and George H. Jacobus, Local 448.*

### NEW PRESS AGENTS

*Sister Shults is from one of the newest locals. She will have a lot to report on the building of their Local, and has already started.*

*Brother Tait is from the big local in Camden, N. J. which includes Campbell's Soup where 5,000 people are now working, Consolidated Cigar, another big plant, and a number of smaller but very much alive shops.*

*Brother Thompson, former press agent, has recently become Financial Secretary, a job which takes his full time.*

*I had the pleasure of meeting Brother Tait a few days ago. They are working on plans for a Local Union four-page paper which will no doubt be turned out in the usual Local 80 top-notch style.*

*Brother Tait has promised to flood UCAPAWA NEWS with stories and pictures on Local 80 activities. Of one thing we can be sure: these stories will be good.*

*Local 80 is humming with activity and UCAPAWA NEWS cannot afford any longer to miss full reports about these members.*

*Brother Jedlicka is from the Quaker Oats Local in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. He is turning out a lively mimeographed Local Union paper and will no doubt be one of the most active Press Agents in getting the low-down into UCAPAWA NEWS.*

*Brother Dimitrius from Campbell's Soup Local in Chicago and Bro. Jacobus from La Crosse, Wisconsin, have both already started sending in stories.*

*Both of these Press Agents, as do also a number of others, have the problem of getting news from the shops other than those in which they themselves work, for the Locals both include several plants.*

### NEWS STAFF

**The Press Agents and Organizers are the staff of UCAPAWA NEWS. They supply most of the stories and pictures in the paper.**

**Every local should be represented. When we get the name and address of a new press agent, we send him an official press card, and a memorandum on publicity which explains much about the job.**

*In this letter I cannot begin to take up all the subjects important to the UCAPAWA NEWS staff. Much will have to wait for next time.*

### GET OTHERS ACTIVE

*But I want to urge the entire staff to keep their ears close to the ground in the shop and in the local union.*

*Do not try to do the entire job of reporting yourself, but get other members to write or tell you stories that you can send in.*

*Members may have poems or rhymes which they have written, pictures of union people, stories of how they built their Department to 100% union, reports from the legislative and resolutions committee, and a thousand and one other points.*

### NEXT ISSUE

*This issue may be a day or two late in getting out because I was at the Tobacco Conference in Camden just at the time when the paper should have been in full production.*

**Stories and pictures for the next issue should be in by Nov. 24, so you will all have to "get going" quickly.**

**Let me remind you of one privilege of a staff member of a paper. That is to criticize and help build the paper.**

**Treat this letter as if it were written to you personally and answer if you want to with anything you may have to say about UCAPAWA NEWS.**

**Fraternally yours,**
**Connie Anderson, Editor.**

*Bum Steer Dept.*

# 14 Ways to Kill Union

**1. Don't go to any of the meetings.**

**2. But in case you do, go late.**

**3. If the weather doesn't suit you, don't even think of going.**

**4. If you should happen to attend, find fault with the work of the officers and members.**

**5. Never accept an office. It is much easier to criticize than to do things.**

**6. Get sore if you are not elected on a committee. Should you be elected, don't attend any of the meetings.**

**7. If asked to give your opinion on some matter, tell the chairman you have nothing to say. After the meeting tell everyone how it should be done.**

**8. Do nothing more than is absolutely necessary. When others roll up their sleeves and pitch in to help matters along, howl that the organization is run by a clique.**

**9. Hold back your dues as long as possible or don't pay them at all.**

**10. Make no effort to get new members.**

**11. Don't be sociable either within or outside the meeting hall.**

**12. If you should get a good idea, keep it to yourself.**

**13. Should some wise outsider come along, who probable couldn't organize a dog fight, and tell you just what is wrong with your organization, agree with him and carry on a whispering campaign against your officers.**

**14. Never report grievances to your shop stewards or officers. Then criticize them before the members for not doing their jobs.**

**If you want to tear down your Union carry out the above instructions to the letter.**

**IF YOU DON'T WANT IT TORN DOWN, PLUG AND PUSH AND WORK.**

# FRUIT AND VEGETABLE PROCESSING

## Soup Local Backs FDR Defense; Negotiations on New Pact Open

*By James Dimitrious, Press Agent, Local 194*

**Chicago, Ill., Nov. 10.—At a recent meeting of the Campbell's Soup local here the members voted 100% to back the President and his administration on the National Defense Week Program.**

A Committee was appointed to get all the necessary details and to participate in all events possible to help along on National Defense.

### NEGOTIATIONS STARTED

We are now starting to negotiate our new contract with Campbell Soup Co. and have appointed a negotiating committee to meet with company officials starting Nov. 12.

Some of the points in our proposed new contract are closed shop and 10c per hour increase, male and female, two weeks' vacation with pay for two years service or better, pay for holidays, double time if work on Labor Day, and plant and job seniority.

## NEW LOCAL DANCES

Recently appointed entertainment committee of Local 31, Benton Harbor, Michigan, is planning a Thanksgiving Dance.

Members of the committee are Lucille Bisk, Elda Case, Leona Hacker, Agnes Bishop and Frank Pantalerio.

**FRAZIER LOCAL 32: Virgil "Pop Eye" Sturtsman (top).—Center (l. to r.), Plant Foreman Joseph (Mike) Headly, Zola Headly and Gertrude Jackson, Grievance Ladies; Mary Duffey, Gladys Harting and Louise Gardner, Shop Stewards, and Mary Hancock, Grievance Lady.—After the Pitch-In Dinner (bottom), Sorters and some of the guests.**

## News of Frazier Tomato Pack; Check-off Prevails

*By Fred H. Wilson, Local 32 Press Agent.*

Elwood, Indiana, Nov. 3—Here are a few high-lights of our Tomato Pack.

The season opened August 14 with 167 old members, grew to 418 members during the peak of the pack, with 152 members finishing the pack.

Due to the fact Frazier used less acreage, the pack was shorter than usual. An extra good quality of tomatoes prevailed throughout the season.

**We have closed shop, check-off, and shop stewards for each belt in our plant.**

### PITCH-IN DINNER

On Oct. 17 the Sorting Dept. held their annual pitch-in dinner at 12:00 noon.

Sister Staut asked thanks over the 60 foot table and after the lunch the Sorting Dept. foremen presented the ladies with a carnation as favor.

Among the invited guests were John Lambert, International Representative, Howard McNamara, CIO Field Representative, members of the office staff, Chester Frazier, Mike Headly, foreman, and Mrs. Headly, members of the Grievance Committee, President Avery Phipps and Mrs. Phipps, the husbands of the women in the Sorting Dept., and Sorting Dept. formen, Guy and Grover Hutchison.

**CHICAGO ORGANIZING COMMITTEE: Seated (l. to r.), John Gallagher, Local 194; Eugene Borowski, Local 1; John Sopocy, Int. Rep.; John Schmies, Local 194 Org.; Frank Morgan, Int. Rep.; Frank Plummer, 1. — Standing (l. to r.), Joseph Carfero, Local 47; George Picanich, 194; Elmer Rockrohr, 47; Mathews Buchanan, 1; Carl Banks, 47; Donald White, 1, and Willie Zeigler, 1. — Other members of the Committee are, George Baker, Martin Sullivan, Tony Venzon, Violet Bugan, Vernor Gillan, and Jim Dimitrius, all of Local 194.**

## Local 80 Launches Medical Plan; $1.25 Per Family, for 3 Months

**A low cost medical plan has been worked out by Local 80 for its members.**

**Here is the letter to Local 80 members which explains the plan:**

**"The Welfare Department is pleased to inform you that we are now launching our own Medical Plan. This will make it possible for every member of Local 80 to have adequate medical care at low cost.**

"We are able to offer this plan to all members of Local 80, who are in good standing, through the cooperation of the Medical Department of the International Workers Order.

"Now you don't have to ignore health! Now there need be no excuse for denying yourself or any member of the family essential medical service.

"Here is what the plan is: Continuous medical service, day in and day out all year around, from an I.W.O. physician in your neighborhood.

"This includes visits to the doctor's office as well as home visits when the person is too ill to go to the doctor's office.

**"You do not pay the doctor. Your fee is paid in your small medical plan dues.**

**"This service is at your disposal 12 hours a day, at regular doctors visiting and calling hours.**

**"The cost for this sound, scientific medical care, because it is operated on a cooperative, non-profit basis, is $1.25 for every three months of service for the whole family which includes: husband, wife, and all the children up to 18 years of age."**

"For a single person the rate is 75 cents for three months. A single member may include his mother and father under the family plan at $1.25 for every three months.

**"For the cost of one or two private visits to a physician which you now pay, you can get a whole year's service through this plan.**

"All of the advantages of this service are too numerous to mention in a letter so we will just indicate some of them.

"There are also special low rates for gynecological (women's disease) care, minor surgery, injections, electrical treatments and dressings.

"Should you require the attention of a surgeon or other specialist (heart, lungs, stomach, eye, etc.), you can obtain such care from outstanding men in these fields at greatly reduced rates.

"Arrangements have been made for reduced rates for optical service; for Xray service, etc. Arrangements have also been made with neighborhood drug stores to fill your prescriptions at greatly reduced rates.

"Arrangements for dental care, etc. **All of these and more go with membership in the Medical Plan.**

"Registration for the Plan will be conducted from Nov. 8, 1941, to Dec. 26, 1941. Applications and dues will be collected on Mondays and Fridays, from 2.30 to 5.30, at 201 Federal St., Campden, N. J."

### INFORMATION TO LOCALS

Shortly we shall send to all local unions the booklet called "Add IWO Protection To Your Union Protection" so that any other locals which want to look into low cost medical plans through IWO will have full information at hand.

## BE MERRY!

**Local 80 will celebrate recent victories by dancing at Convention Hall, Camden, N. J., on Nov. 15.**

**Consolidated Cigar, Siegel Cigar, Campbell's Soup, Kind and Knox Geletine and Charles B. Knox workers all have been stepping high on the road to better working and living conditions.**

## NLRB VS REPUBLIC

Chicago, Ill. Nov. 10.—The violation of the Wagner Act that Republic Foods made in discriminating against eight of their employees is coming to a showdown.

The Company and the employees together with UCAPAWA representatives were called before the Board last week and a full hearing on all phases of the case was held.

UCAPAWA feels confident that soon they will have a decision in their favor since the Company does not have a leg to stand on.

## Raises in Candy Co.

Chicago, Ill.—Schutter Johnson Candy Co. employees received two raises since UCAPAWA started passing out leaflets.

First raise was 1½c and the second 5c per hour.

## FIRST MEMPHIS CLOSED SHOP

Memphis, Tenn., Nov. 7.—First UCAPAWA closed shop contract here was won today at Malone and Hyde.

Contract also includes wages increases of from seven to 11½ cents per hour, with provision for again opening the wage question in six months.

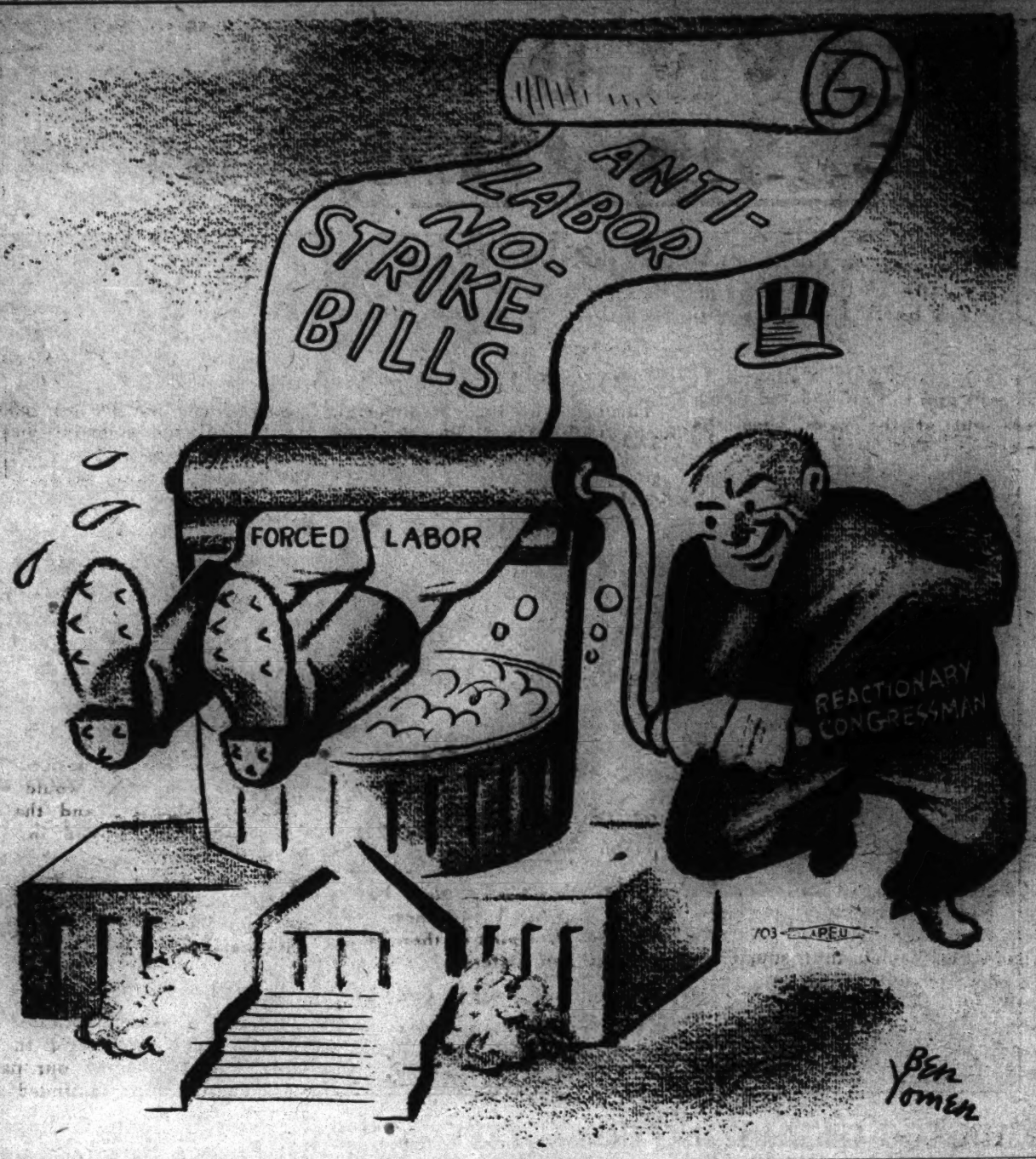
### $200 TO $350 A YEAR

Wage increases amount to from $200 to $350 per year for each member, since work is steady year 'round.

Vacations are provided for and time-and one-half over eight hours a day, as well as seniority and grievance machinery.

### AUTOMATIC INCREASE

These wage increases at Malone and Hyde will automatically raise wages at Davis-Mize where the UCAPAWA contract calls for increases to match any which are put into effect in competing plants.




# CIO BATTLES WAGE CONTROL

**Chicago, Ill., Nov. 10.—CIO President Philip Murray is leading the CIO in a determined fight against wage freezing and for a good price control bill.**

**Today President Donald Henderson received a letter from Brother Murray again asking that all our local unions notify their representatives in Congress of their views on this matter.**

Brother Murray also enclosed a copy of his letter addressed to Henry B. Steagall, chairman of the House Committee which has been holding hearings. A copy of this letter was sent to all members of the U. S. House of Representatives.

### CIO LETTER

Here is the letter (in part):

November 6, 1941
Honorable Henry B. Steagall
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

My dear Congressman Steagall:

**Very shortly Congress will be considering the Price Control Bill, H.R. 5479. It is proposed in some quarters to place some form of wage controls in the bill. Wage control means the destruction of a free labor movement and collective bargaining. There are set forth below the reasons why labor regards a vote for wage control as a vote to destroy organized labor.**

We believe that the bill in its present form is wholly inadequate to meet the swift inflationary movement of prices now taking place.

The bill as it now stands does not provide for enforcement machinery effective enough to carry out its purpose.

The virtual elimination of ceilings on the price of foods and other farm products in the Committee bill creates the danger that speculative interests will take advantage of the situation to drive the price of farm products to inflationary levels. This will seriously damage working people since they spend from 35 to 45 per cent of their income on food. It will also jeopardize the interests of the honest working farmers of the nation. The experience of the farm people in inflation beginning with the first World War shows that clearly.

**Labor wants farmers to get their fair share of the national income. We believe that for many years the farm people have not received as much as they should, but the lifting of effective ceilings from farm prices will not help farmers or labor. Only speculators and profiteers will benefit.**

**The CIO set forth in detail before the House Banking and Currency Committee the reasons why we believe that wage control in price control would be a serious and fundamental mistake. It is not necessary to institute wage control to prevent inflation or keep prices in check. Wage increases will not contribute to price rises in the near future if effective price legislation is now established.**

Freezing of wages at this time would mean freezing of the ability of working people to buy farm products in particular. The workers want more food and farmers can produce more food.

**The establishment of wage controls in this bill would be most dangerous to the welfare of labor. It would wipe out free collective bargaining. It would subject labor to the control of government bureaucracy. It would constitute the first step toward direct control of labor by government. The dangers of such a proposal to labor must not be underestimated.**

I am attaching for your convenience a copy of the statement which I made before the House Banking and Currency Committee on this matter.

On behalf of the CIO I therefore urge you most strongly to support an effective price control bill based upon the bill originally considered by the Committee, and also that you oppose any measures to institute wage control as unnecessary to prevent inflation and as harmful to American working people.

Sincerely yours,

**(s) PHILIP MURRAY,**
**President, CIO.**

## "Remember Clarich" Honor Roll

**Locals 7-2, 26, 47, 55, 68, 79, 105, 110, 186, 237, 273, 638.**

**If your local is contributing but is omitted from this Honor Roll, please notify the International Office in writing at once.**

UCAPAWA

"AN INJURY TO ONE IS AN INJURY TO ALL"

# UCAPAWA NEWS

*Published Twice Monthly*

Official publication of the United Cannery, Agricultural, Packing and Allied Workers of America, affiliated with the Congress of Industrial Organizations.

205 W. Wacker Drive, Chicago, Illinois

Donald Henderson, President
Harold J. Lane, Secretary-Treasurer

Vice-Presidents
Conrad Espe — Armando Ramirez
Clyde Johnson — Dixie Tiller
O. H. Whitfield

Editor: Cornelia M. Anderson

Subscription: $1 a year to non-members.

Entered as second class matter August 21, 1941, at the Post Office at Chicago, Illinois, under the Act of March 3, 1879.

Vol. II.—No. 7 November 17, 1941.

# News from Brother Christopher Clarich

*By* HAROLD J. LANE, *Secy.-Treas.*

**I am in receipt of a communication from Christopher Clarich sent from his prison cell in Texas where he is serving a sentence for what I feel his only guilt has been President of UCAPAWA, Local 154 and a true fighter of the rights of workers to organize and stop starvation wages.**

### UCAPAWA PLEDGED SUPPORT

Our Third National Convention some months ago adopted a firm resolution by a unanimous vote that we would remember Christopher Clarich and above all, not allow Mrs. Clarich and her four children to suffer.

The resolution asked that all UCAPAWA Locals donate a regular amount each month to be sent directly to Mrs. Clarich at her home—321 Seventeenth Street, Corpus Christi, Texas.

This amount should be considered as a regular payment to be made as per capita, rent, or any other local expenses.

### LOYAL LOCALS

Some of our locals have responded in an exceptional manner.

One outstanding example is the case of Local 237, Ketchikan, Alaska, where the workers are only employed a few months of the year.

Local 237 voted a twenty-five cent assessment and this amount was forwarded direct to Mrs. Clarich.

Another Local, 32, Elwood, Indiana, last month sent Mrs. Clarich a check for $15.00.

Local 68 of Saginaw, Michigan, has a fifty cent fine for members who do not attend meetings without good cause. Half of this amount collected (and it is collected because I know Local 68) is sent to Mrs. Clarich.

These are a few of the outstanding examples of the way some of our locals have cooperated.

The important fact to bear in mind is that we decided to support Christopher Clarich's family for as long a period of time as Christopher Clarich remains behind prison bars.

### MORE HELP NEEDED

In order for us to effectively carry out this decision, it is necessary that more local unions contribute regularly. This amount ranges from $2.00 to $5.00 a month according to what your local can comfortably afford.

**Bear in mind that Mrs. Clarich and her four children have absolutely no means of support and not only can use this money, but if members of your local can send clothes that can be used for growing children, send these to Mrs. Clarich.**

In each issue of UCAPAWA NEWS you will find a "Remember Clarich Honor Roll." At the present time I feel that this honor roll is entirely too small. I would like to see every one of our local unions on this honor roll immediately.

### CLARICH HAS COURAGE

I will quote from a section of Brother Clarich's letter which best exemplifies this man's spirit. His thoughts are not on his own personal discomfort and suffering in prison, but his only thoughts are for his wife and children.

We surely should not let down a man who possesses such courage and fortitude.

### FAMILY SUFFERS

I quote, "I am in good health so far, thanks to the Lord. But I write these few lines to let you know the standing of my family.

"They are in need of help.

"Could you be so kind and report to some larger locals so they could arrange some donations monthly and send it to my family? Sometimes my wife gets from $10.00 to $22.00 a month. Three of my children they are trying to go to school and the smallest one is home.

**"Sometimes I get a newspaper and I know that Labor has a difficult and hard fight for better wages and I know many locals are busy, but maybe if you talk with them they could make this little job to help me out.**

### I AM INNOCENT

"I have not lost hope. I know I am innocent of that dead man and I know that God Almighty has the name of the guilty man in the Book.

"I do not care for myself—I can stand it.

"My only worry is that my wife and children have not got enough to eat and clothes on their back to keep from freezing.

"If you want to, you can write to my wife, Corona Clarich, 321 Seventeenth Street, Corpus Christi, Texas.

**"I will appreciate anything you do for my family. I wish you the finest luck and finest regards to all members of UCAPAWA in the United States of America, from your Brother Christopher Clarich, Blue Ridge State Farm, Hobby, Texas."**

# Conference Passes Eight Resolutions

**Camden, N. J., Nov. 10.—Eight important resolutions were passed unanimously by the Tobacco Workers' Conference yesterday, and sent to the proper people and authorities concerned.**

**Should tobacco or other locals want to pass similar resolutions, copies may be sent to UCAPAWA NEWS to be published.**

Full text of the Conference resolutions follows.

### HELP CUBAN WORKERS

Whereas, the delegates of the Cuban workers to the I.L.O. has brought plans which are to be presented to our government in order to help the tobacco workers in Cuba whom, due to the fact that their main market is in Europe and due to the fact that they have lost that market on account of the war, **more than three-fourths of the cigar workers have lost their jobs,**

And whereas, our own government has in all occasions applied the good neighbor policy in order to unite the Latin American countries in our fight against Hitlerism,

Be it resolved that this conference go on record favoring any and all legislation favoring these workers.

### BOYCOTT JIM CROW HOTEL

Whereas, **The constitution of our international is founded on the principle of no discrimination against race, creed, or color, and**

Whereas, the Plaza Hotel, Camden, N. J., has refused to keep our Negro delegates even though our white delegates have been staying there, and

Whereas, even a threat of a boycott has failed to change the manager of this hotel, now therefore

Be it resolved that this conference of UCAPAWA now in session go on official record to never use this hotel and to advise all members and friends of trade unions to do likewise until this hotel has changed its undemocratic policies.

### AGAINST WAGE TAXES

Be it resolved, that the tobacco conference of the UCAPAWA-CIO opposes any taxes upon wages in the future as tending to focus antagonism against the administration, instead of our real enemy, Hitler

That such an increase in wage taxes places an additional burden on those already bearing the brunt of taxation;

That such taxes tend to punish those who work for a living as opposed to those who live on unearned income.

**And be it further resolved, that any increase in taxation made necessary by the defense effort be placed on excess corporation income.**

### DEFEAT HITLER

**Be it resolved, that the Tobacco Workers Conference of UCAPAWA go on record in full support of President Roosevelts present policy of national defense in giving all-out aid to Great Britain, China and Russia and the utilization of any measures necessary to defeat Hitler, including the immediate repeal of the Neutrality Act.**

### PROTECT AG. WORKERS

**Whereas agricultural workers have no protection under the Wage and Hour law, and**

Whereas the other industries have protection

Be it resolved that the Tobacco Conference of UCAPAWA go on record as supporting the Langer bill or any substitute bill that may come up in Congress. *(See page 8 for report on Langer bill.)*

### FACTS ON TOBACCO

Whereas the Tobacco Division of UCAPAWA has greatly increased in membership, and

Whereas the industry is very complicated and has many problems which are not understood by any one who is not familiar with tobacco

**Be it resolved that this Conference go on record recommending to every local that they send all statistics relating to prices, agreements, and working conditions to the International office in order that with this data our International officers will be in a position to better negotiate and handle the problems peculiar to the tobacco and cigar industry.**

### RIGHT TO STRIKE

Whereas, the Tobacco Workers Conference is whole-heartedly back of the United States government on its all-out aid to the nations that are fighting fascism and to make and deliver those materials to those nations; but at the same time the Conference does not feel as though any of our civil liberties should be taken away from us.

**Therefore, be it resolved that the Tobacco Conference is emphatically opposed to any and all legislation that takes away the workers' right to strike.**

### FREE EARL BROWDER

Whereas, Earl Browder is a staunch fighter against Fascism and for workers' rights and welfare,

Whereas, Earl Browder has been imprisoned unfairly on minor technical grounds,

**And whereas, this is NOT an issue of Communism, but is a question of suppressing anti-Fascist activity in an un-American way,**

**Be it therefore resolved that the Tobacco Workers Conference go on record favoring the immediate release of Earl Browder from prison.**

# TOBACCO CONFAB IN CAMDEN

**Camden, N. J., Nov. 10.—You would have to go far to match the enthusiasm and confidence which ran through the Tobacco Conference here the past two days.**

**Delegates from various parts of the United States, old and young, men and women, Negro and white, all found a common basis for struggling together to build a better life for tobacco workers.**

Opening talks by President Henderson and Secretary-Treasurer Lane outlined the job of the Conference.

### ORGANIZE!

Tobacco workers must gird themselves to build a powerful UCAPAWA Tobacco Division now that a solid ground-work has been laid.

In other industries full CIO organization has meant raising wages and improving conditions as much as 100%.

### DELEGATES DISCUSS

Most all day Saturday and part of Sunday was spent in hearing reports from the delegates describing conditions and union problems, in comparing notes and in doping out what steps should be taken to push organization ahead.

Eleanor Borski of Webster in Detroit led off the series of reports from the hand-made cigar shops.

**The local there is 99.9% union now, according to Sister Borski, with only one worker out of 375 who will not pay her share of the union freight.**

Since the shop has become solid union, some good gains have been made.

Sister Borski entered a strong plea to get rid of piece work in the industry.

On day work, said Sister Borski, you work just as hard but you "at least can breath in spells."

### STRIKE VICTORY

Sadie Harris from Siegel's gave a colorful account of their seven weeks' strike which won them a strong local from which to build, and a 10% increase immediately.

**During the strike the workers were able to bring political pressure which forced the "cops to get nice."**

**Shipyard and other workers in Camden gave excellent support to Siegel's and to Consolidated which was out at the same time. As much as $300 was taken in at one gate collection.**

### $1 A DAY BENEFITS

In this way during the entire period of over seven weeks the 1,300 girls were paid $1 a day strike benefits. Good meals, sometimes including fried oysters and beer, were served for pickets.

Delegations of other workers came over after work by the hundreds to demonstrate solidarity with the pickets.

**The two strikes cost the Local 80 treasury only $500 all together.**

### NEW ORLEANS IN UCAPAWA

Richard Del Rio from Trelles in New Orleans told how they are winning over the girls who had been fooled into supporting a company union for some years. "We are not mad with them, we treat them good, we like them," said Brother Del Rio.

Now 400 out of the 630 workers in the plant are union, with more signing up every day.

**Local 944 intends to organize all the cigar shops so that they will have a local of 1,500 strong in New Orleans.**

### RIGHT TO LIVE

**International Vice-President Ramirez reporting for Local 273 in New York, the oldest UCAPAWA tobacco local, told of the highest wages so far in the industry.**

**The closed shop prevails in all New York City shops, other than one or two yet unorganized, and the Italian shops.**

Brother Ramirez pointed out that "cigar bosses have not yet learned that workers have a right to make a living." He put his finger on run-away shops from older organized centers which must be organized immediately.

**Later, International Representative Herbert Cole told of good progess already being made in several of these big run-away plants in New Jersey in the one short month he has been on the job.**

### STRENGTH IN RICHMOND

Turning to the stemmeries, Richard H. Allen, President of Local 577 and Charles McClaborne, President of Local 350 kept the conference spell-bound with their story of an up-hill fight to build the union and to change the sweatshop conditions into the union conditions which are beginning to prevail.

Back in 1937 the workers at Export Tobacco in Richmond, Va., struck for 18 days for a $10 a week wage.

Brother McClaborne reported that now pay runs from $18 to $30 a week. This plant is under contract with Local 350 at the present time.

**Songs sung by these delegations, "What a fellowship, what a joy divine," "We shall not be moved," as well as others, best expressed the spirit of these Negro brothers and sisters.**

### PEANUT WORKER APPEALS

Brother Freeman, fraternal delegate from the peanut local in Suffolk, Va., appealed for the support of tobacco workers in their current struggle.

**Brother Freeman told the delegates that some peanut workers make only $8 a week and must pay $5 a week for house rent alone.**

After an opening prayer by Brother McClaborne Sunday morning, the conference launched into the reports from the machine-made plants.

### MACHINE-MADE REPORTS

**Helen Saccomanno from Consolidated, Wanda Klein from Zifferblatt, Elizabeth Tarbutton from Deisel-Wemmer-Gilbert in Lima and other Ohio towns and Pearl Kopek from the D.W.G. plant in Detroit, all made important reports on their strikes, contracts and present problems in these big shops.**

In discussing efforts to organize Bayuk in Philadelphia Betty Shelton, International Representative, disclosed that this company has paid as much as $10,000 a week to detective agencies for spies to break up the union.

**The Tobacco Conference put Bayuks high on the list of "Must Organize." President Henderson emphasized that the Bayuk organizing campaign will go on until victory is achieved.**

Miriam Yeager from the Consolidated plant in Lancaster, Pa., explained how the workers there had been misled up the AFL blind alley and how the UCAPAWA-CIO local had a good chance of breaking through within the next few months.

**Lancaster workers are disgusted, said Sister Yeager, with paying dues into the AFL local which is only a shell.**

Space does not permit reporting in full the splendid discussions on the resolutions, all of which passed unanimously. (See story on page 1 ,and column 1, this page.)

### COMMITTEE TO MEET

Before the conference broke up, Ben Allen, UCAPAWA Legislative Representative in Washington, spoke on the Minimum Wage hearings for the Tobacco Industry which are scheduled by the Wage-Hour Administration.

**Brother Allen emphasized that the Cigar Committee would meet early in December and that all cigar locals must send in complete information on prices, operations, sizes, etc. to the UCAPAWA International Office promptly for his immediate use at this important hearing.**

### BUILD LABOR PRESS

Connie Anderson, Editor of UCAPAWA NEWS urged the delegates to get behind our paper.

Delegates were reminded that the regular papers usually give trade unionists such a raw deal that it is of pressing importance to build our own truthful newspaper.

**Sister Anderson explained how UCAPAWA NEWS if it is to be really good, must be staffed by active Local Union Press Agents who will work hard to build the paper.**

After two days of solid meeting and talking the delegates late Sunday afternoon when it was already getting dark, rose and stretched and sang "Solidarity Forever."

P. S.—UCAPAWA NEWS has heard rumors that some of the delegates from a distance decided that they "might never again have another chance to see New York City," and acted accordingly.

**International Vice-President Ramirez, said to have been the New York City host, might be in a position to report on the rhumba dancing and sight-seeing from then on.**

**CONFERENCE DELEGATES: Entire group in front of Local 80 Hall (upper left); Richard Del Rio, Local 944 delegate from New Orleans (upper right); Group of Camden delegates (lower left); Richmond, Va. delegates (lower right, l. to r.) Ella B. Betts, Charlie Mc Claborne and Bennie Rouse, Local 350; R. E. Himmaugh, Int. Rep., and Richard H. Allen and Rosa White, Local 577.**

# GRAIN PROCESSING

## SECOND QUAKER OATS PACT SIGNED

Buffalo, N. Y., Nov. 5.—Second CIO agreement with a Quaker Oats plant was signed here today between the management of the Depew, N. Y. plant and UCAPAWA.

**PAY UP**

Pay raises of 10 cents per hour on the minimum rates were won, setting the minimum at 45c for women and 60c for men.

General pay raises provide for increases of seven cents per hour for women and eight cents for men.

**GOOD CONTRACT**

Vacations of one week up to three weeks, depending on length of service are included as well as good provisions on seniority and shop steward and grievance settlement.

Bargaining rights were won through certification by NLRB after a cross-check of union cards showed that 80 per cent of the workers were already signed up in UCAPAWA.

In September UCAPAWA signed a contract with the Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Quaker Oats plant.

**QUAKER OATS: Depew, N. Y. local meets (bottom). Successful negotiators of recent contract (top picture), Helen Olivieri, John Repka, Pres., and Evelyn Salugni, sitting (l. to r.) — Standing are (l. to r.), Joseph Repka, Sgt.-at-Arms; Walter Cybulski, Trustee; George Valentine, Edith Leibert, Sec.-Treas., and Agnes Marquart, Vice-Pres.**

## SENIORITY WON BACK AT FEED MILL

*By Kenneth Hirschy, Financial Secretary, Local 44.*

Decatur, Indiana, Nov. 8.—Recently we won back the seniority which was deducted from union members after our strike against the Central Soya Co. Inc. and McMillen Feed Mills, Inc.

We had a strike last Spring that lasted for 38 days and conditions of settlement were recognition and a contract.

After returning to work the management deducted these 38 days of strike from all union members' seniority and not the non-union members' seniority.

**FIGHT DISCRIMINATION**

The "Executive Shop Committee" took this up as a grievance and there was no way of settling this issue without more trouble, so we turned to the National Labor Relations Board for advice and help.

We immediately filed charges with the NLRB that "the company . . . discriminated against all union employees in the plant in that non-union employees were given credit for a thirty-eight day seniority during a strike from March 3, 1941, to April 10, 1941, and union employees were refused credit on seniority for these same thirty-eight days."

This charge was signed by Welmer Harmon, Pres. and myself.

While the NLRB was investigating, the company up and hired a man by the name of Mr. Max Schafer, a former Indiana state conciliator, as head of the Labor Relations Department, a newly formed Department in this company.

Mr. Max Schafer immediately granted us our demands and about 100 members had their 38 days of strike added to their seniority.

**UNION MEMBERS WIN**

The results of this are as follows: Some union members got paid for two weeks' vacation instead of one week.

Also some union members were put ahead of non-union members because now promotions are given according to seniority.

Of course, if Mr. Schafer wouldn't have granted us our demand the NLRB would have because we had everything on the management and they admitted it to the NLRB.

We then cancelled our charge with the NLRB.

## Piel Starch Company Union Mumbles from Grave

Indianapolis, Indiana, Nov. 1—The phony Independent Union at Piel Starch division of National Starch here still mumbles from the grave. This outfit has not completely given up the ghost although the workers in the plant voted for UCAPAWA-CIO Local 92 in a Labor Board election several weeks ago.

Here's how Local 92 explains the situation to the minority of the workers who are muddled by a few company boot-lickers:

**COMPANY UNION IS DEAD**

On October 15, 1941, the so-called "Independent Company Union" **died—from an overdose of CIO votes.**

In spite of an injection of lies made at a pre-election meeting, the poor frail body was laid to rest.

After being buried two weeks, the "Protective" (protecting what?) tries to walk again, handing out **illegal** applications on Company time and property, claiming bargaining rights in defiance of a decision made by the United States Government.

Don't be muddled by this "ZOMBIE" Union's mumblings from the grave.

**WE ACCUSE**

The "Protective" of **obtaining money under false pretenses!** (Any dues paid into this organization are wasted, as they **cannot represent the workers** at the National Starch Company.) You may phone RILEY 2403 and ask the United States Labor Relations Board.

**WE ACCUSE**

The "Protective" of **obtaining admitting,** on a "black and yellow" leaflet, issued October 14, that it is a "Company Association."

**WE SUGGEST**

That the Company Association stumble back to the grave.

**WE SUGGEST**

That the Company sign a **union shop contract** with the **certified bargaining agency for all the workers in the plant—The United Cannery, Agricultural, Packing and Allied Workers of America,** of the CIO, and stop all of this dissention.

**WE SUGGEST**

THAT ALL MEMBERS OF UCAPAWA LOCAL NO. 92 COME TO A SPECIAL CONTRACT MEETING SUNDAY.

## LADIES ORGANIZE

**Women's Auxiliary of Local 44, Central Soya and McMillen Feed Mills in Decatur, Indiana, is organizing and will be in action by Dec. 1.**

**Stories of the work of other Ladies Auxiliaries will help them. Send such news in to this paper.**

**Organized wives strengthen the local union. More power to them!**

*More on Tobacco*

## RICHMOND LOCALS REAP REWARDS OF HARD WORK

*By R. E. Himmaugh, International Representative.*

Richmond, Va., Nov. 7.—**Our check-off list reached a new high for Local 350 at Export Tobacco for the month of October with 701 paying dues.**

**Outstanding in this is the Leaf plant with 166. For the month of July only two members paid dues in this plant.**

Much credit goes to Sister Pearl Winston who has labored almost single-handed to build a union in this big plant.

We are attempting to negotiate a wage increase but are having a hard time accomplishing anything due to the company's claim that they have frozen assets in foreign banks.

## Larus Talks Progress

*By R. E. Himmaugh, International Representative.*

Richmond, Va., Nov. 7.—Negotiations began this week with Larus & Bros. Co. for the manufacturing department, which makes smoking and chewing tobacco and cigarettes.

The present contract was signed by Local Industrial Union 577 which was absorbed by UCAPAWA this year.

**LOCAL REORGANIZED**

There had been only two dues paying members in this local for the past year and with an open shop contract, no interest was shown by any of the workers when these two faithful members approached them.

After a series of reorganizational meetings, we succeeded in getting 115 check-offs signed out of 166 workers.

**SMOOTH NEGOTIATIONS**

Negotiations have been going very smoothly, with the following clauses agreed on: Military clause, seniority, extra week's vacation, check-off and shop steward system.

After getting off to a very slow start in the Stemmery and several months of negotiations before the contract was finally signed, our dealings with this company have been favorable.

**BOUQUETS FOR STEWARDS**

The most outstanding accomplishment in Local 577 is the efficient manner that Shop Stewards operate in the Stemmery.

Many grievances have come up and all of them have been satisfactorily settled by the plant superintendent and shop stewards who are: Sisters Goldie Goode, Sarah Davis, Alease Christian and Brother John Coleman.

*Fish Canning and Seafood*

## Chicago Fish Company Smells

*By Frank Czarnecki, International Representative*

Chicago, Ill., Nov. 10.—After the Organizing Committee had contacted employees of Allison and Bedford Fish Cannery and had people signing applications for UCAPAWA-CIO the company double-crossed the employees by calling in the AFL and compelling the employees to sign with the AFL under threat of losing their jobs.

**WORKER FIRED**

One of the older employees who had been organizing the workers was fired. UCAPAWA and this employee filed charges against the company and also a petition for an election.

The company knows that they made a mistake and are caught like rats in one of their own traps. They asked the AFL organizer to call up the fired employee and ask her to come back to work.

**BAD FISH**

The employees of Allison and Bedford know that the company is in the fish business. They also know that the company brought in some slimy AFL fish that stinks and they don't want to belong to that union.

Pay at Allison and Bedford is 30c an hour for women and 40c for men with no time and one-half after eight hours, and conditions are terrible.

## Van Camp 100%; Seek More Pay

*By Mrs. Josephine Flower, Press Agent, Local 64.*

San Diego, California.—Local 64 in the Van Camp Sea Food Co. here is the only CIO union of its kind in San Diego with 700 members.

New workers have six working days to join, otherwise they are discharged on written request of the union.

**DUES ARE ALL PAID**

Payment of dues is overcome by allowing a three-month lapse. Written warnings to bring dues to date are given, or the worker suspended until paid up.

**Shop stewards are active and few members are discharged.**

**FINES FOR NON-ATTENDANCE**

We had trouble getting a quorum, but a fine of $1.00 for non-attendance of one meeting per month is levied.

Promptness of opening meetings and strict adherence to business is another incentive to attendance.

Local 64 held a meeting in order to review our wage scale and decide whether we were entitled to an increase as provided for in our contract.

**FOR 20c RAISE**

The membership instructed the negotiating committee to negotiate for a blanket raise of 20c and a minimum of 10c.

Members of the negotiating committee are Mrs. Elvira Burns, Chairman, Mrs. Anna Salazar, Mr. John Frolic, Mr. Carmen Castillo, Mr. Barney Bareno, Mr. Earl Neff, Miss Josephine Wood, Secretary and Mr. Dixie Tiller, Business Agent.

**The present hourly rate is 65 cents per hour for women and 70 cents per hour for men, besides piece work.**

The Van Camp Sea Food Co. under Mr. Martin Quama, Superintendent, and Mr. Montgomery Fister, Lawyer, will open negotiations soon.

Results of negotiations will be retroactive to Oct. 20.

# Memphis Strike Won

Memphis, Tenn., Oct. 30.—Signing of contracts with the Memphis Cotton Oil Co. in Memphis and Jackson, Tenn., Armour subsidiaries, today settled a hard fought strike which lasted well over two weeks.

The contracts are with UCAPAWA.

### WORKERS STUCK

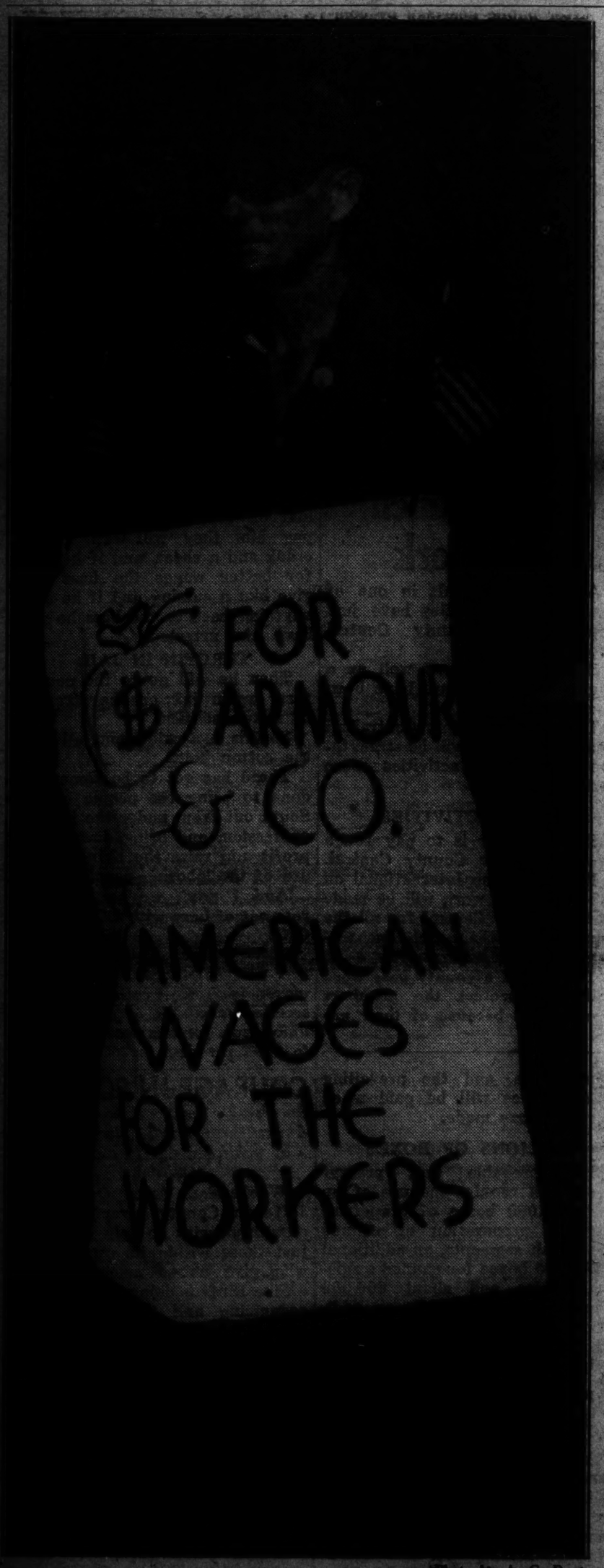
The white and Negro workers stuck together in an atmosphere of terrorism to win their first union agreement in these sweat-shop plants.

Wage increases of five to seven cents won by the union together with the contracts, are the entering wedge which will bring these Southern plants up to more liveable levels of wages and working conditions. Before the union 30 cents was the general level of wages.

### PROGRESS IN MEMPHIS

"Organizational work by UCAPAWA is making steady progress within a radius of 100 miles of Memphis at more than a dozen plants," Bill Haber, UCAPAWA Representative announced.

**"Cotton seed oil mill and other workers in this area are fighting an uphill fight, inch by inch and penny by penny, but they are fighting and winning their basic rights."**




—Photo by A. C. Drews

PICKET: Vernon Crider Helps Win First CIO Strike in Jackson, Tenn. Armour signed up with UCAPAWA.

# 15 Cent Raise In California Compresses

*By Ben Fleming,*
*Local 272 Press Agent.*

**Bakersfield, Calif.—After about a week and a half of negotiating on our new contract for this season, we finally got our demands of a flat 15 cents an hour increase in wages.**

**The Fresno locals also got a flat 15 cent increase.**

**The AFL has been trying to urge the Fresno locals to join the AFL. They have also approached us on the matter, but our members are all for the CIO.**

Members of our Negotiating Committee were A. Douglas, K. Gatewood, E. Fifer, S. Salas, and A. J. McClellan.

### TO CELEBRATE

We are planning a celebration around the last of this month in honor of our new officers coming in for the new season and the progress we have made in our fight to help better the living and working conditions in the vicinity.

Our President, A. Douglas, is donating the ice cream.

## Mass Meeting

**Edwin S. Smith, farmer member of the NLRB and now director of the CIO drive to organize oil, spoke in Houston, Texas, Nov. 3 under the auspices of Cotton Compress Workers' Local 75.**

**This meeting was part of the drive to organize Houston compresses solid in UCAPAWA-CIO.**

# BIG COMPRESS COMPANY SIGNS

*By A. M. Collins, President, Local 306.*

Phoenix, Arizona, Nov. 1.—Agreement was reached here today at the Western Compress Co., one of the plants of Anderson-Clayton, biggest cotton compress company in the United States.

The contract provides for a 10c an hour increase in wages with a 5c retroactive pay to be paid the men from Oct. 1 to Oct. 30.

The contract further provides for a better grievance procedure which should pave the way for a better understanding between the company and the union. Grievances will be taken up immediately instead of waiting until after work hours.

### YELLOW DOG OUT

All the yellow dog features of the old contract were taken out and in their place went the union bulletin board in the plant, preferential hiring of all men working this year who will be laid off in the slack season, provision for leaves of absence, and agreement that this plant could walk out in sympathy with the Tulare, Fresno and San Pedro plants in case of trouble.

### BIG IMPROVEMENT

The Negotiating Committee and Paul Gardner, UCAPAWA Representative, who worked hard on the contract, stated that this was not the best contract to be expected but that it was a vast improvement over the contract the union had the last three years.

The men, after seeing what they can do by sticking together in the union are determined to go out and organize all the other plants in Phoenix to build their union strength for next year.

### NO STRIKE

Assisting the union in averting the strike was Frank J. Ashe of the U. S. Department of Labor and the company side was strengthened by Mr. Peden of the Los Angeles office.

The victory was doubly great as all the companies here in Phoenix had only raised a nickle and the union had a tough time breaking through which puts them in a very favorable position now to grow.

### STUCK TOGETHER

This victory never could have been accomplished had it not been for the splendid solidarity of the men which was shown in the strike vote of 125 to 1 for striking.

Negotiating for the union were Paul Gardner, UCAPAWA Int. Rep.; A. M. Collins, Pres., Local 306; Wardell Moore, Secy,, Local 306; and H. B. Jackson, Joe Lewis, Jack Stone and Lloyd Collins.

# BUCKEYE VOTES CIO 2 TO 1

Memphis, Tenn., Oct. 28.—Climax to a long organizational campaign at the big Buckeye Cotton Oil Mills here came today with the winning of an NLRB election.

Total vote in the two plants was 713 for UCAPAWA-CIO to 375 for the so-called "Independent" union which was really a company union.

**"Winning of the largest cotton oil mill in the United States into UCAPAWA-CIO ranks is a major victory in the organizing drive in this industry," said Bill Haber, UCAPAWA Representative, adding that "the heavy CIO vote is an impressive answer to open-shop propaganda and vigilante-terrorism in the entire area."**

At the Jackson Ave. plant of Buckeye, soya beans, pulp, rayon, plastics, junk cotton and other products are crushed as well as cotton seed.

Buckeye is a subsidiary of the giant Proctor and Gamble Co.

# COUNCIL FORMED

*By Reuben Windom, President*
*Compress and Oil Mill Workers Coordinating Council*

Phoenix, Arizona, Oct. 26.—The establishment of a co-ordniating Council for Compress and Oil Mill Workers in the CIO was accomplished at Phoenix, Arizona, today.

The session completed a heavy schedule in establishing the Council which will represent 1,000 organized workers in various compress plants.

### 80% ARE NEGROES

Significant part of the Council program is the emphasis on the fact that 80 per cent of the workers are Negroes. The Negro workers, now that the Council is established, will have greater power through co-ordinated action, through pooling their strength.

The afternoon session was addressed by the Hon. Governor, Sidney P. Osborn of Arizona.

### NO PICK-HANDLE BRIGADES

The Governor stressed in his talk that he was in sympathy with the working people and further stated "that there were not going to be any Pick-Handle brigades as long as he was Governor."

**Governor Osborn further stated that he had told special interests who came to him about his stand toward labor "that if they kept using pick-handles that labor would use them too some day, and that there was a lot more workers than there were of them."**

### FIRST PRO-LABOR GOVERNOR

This stand of the Governor's is very encouraging to the Arizona workers as Arizona has been a vigilante State for a number of years, and this is the first Governor who has stood for justice for the working man.

Also addressing the afternoon session was Attorney Renz L. Jennings of Phoenix, who is pro-labor; W. D. Reeves, Secretary of the Arizona State Old Age Pension Club; Mrs. Lillian Turner, State Secretary of the Arizona Unity League, and Paul Gardner, International Representative of UCAPAWA.

**The Council adopted resolutions in support of the Phoenix local which is struggling for a new contract and the right to organize and bargain collectively.**

Officers of the Council were elected as follows: Reuben Windom, President; H. B. Jackson, Vice-President; John Finney, Secretary-Treasurer, and E. Fifer and Wardell Moore, as Executive Board members.

The new Council Officers and Executive Board members will have the job of consolidating the various gains of the affiliated locals and to aid in the strengthening of these locals.

### COMPRESS WORKERS SING

A special treat for the persons attending the afternoon session was the brilliant rendering of a number of songs by the Phoenix Compress Workers Quartet.

All of these singers work in the Compress and the Phoenix Local is proud of them. Many requests have been made for this quartet to sing at various public functions in recognition of their great singing ability.

### UNITY AND COOPERATION

The Convention ended on a key-note of unity and cooperation of every delegate from each local.

The locals which sent delegates were: UCAPAWA No. 306, Phoenix; UCAPAWA No. 272, Bakersfield, California; UCAPAWA No. 254, Fresno, California, and ILWU No. 1-60 from San Pedro, California. All are affiliated with the CIO.

# SUPPORT DEFENSE

Phoenix Arizona, Oct. 26—In hard hitting words the Compress and Oil Mill Workers Coordinating Council spoke out here today for smashing Hitler fascism.

In a resolution sent to President Roosevelt, the newspapers and to affiliated locals, the Council declared that the **defeat of Hitler and Hitlerism is Labor's number one picket line,** and called for full support to the Defense Program and for repeal of the Neutrality Act.

**CIO LAUNCHES OIL DRIVE:** **Edwin S. Smith (left), former member of the NLRB, who will direct a drive to organize 500,000 oil workers into the Oil Workers Intl. Union. Conferring at the opening of the drive in CIO Pres. Philip Murray's Pittsburgh office are Smith, Murray, Pres. O. A. Knight of the OWIU and Allan S. Haywood, CIO director of organization.**

*MORE ON COTTON*

## Houston Compress Workers Join

*By Clyde Johnson,*
*International Representative*

Houston, Texas, Nov. 12.—Exclusive bargaining rights have been requested at the Terminal Warehouse Company and the Independent Compress Co., cotton compresses, this week by UCAPAWA.

In the mean time workers in several other cotton compresses have speeded up their efforts to secure union majorities in the drive to put all compresses in this port under CIO contract.

**DRIVE HUMS**

This organizing drive started two months ago had first to overcome the distrust of the workers of all unions due to eight years of betrayal by the AFL International Longshoremen's Association.

Now that workers are being convinced the CIO is the right union they are joining fast.

**WORKERS REINSTATED**

Twelve CIO members were laid off Nov. 6 at the Independent Compress for union activity, but they were placed back on their jobs the following day due to action of the union.

The result has been breaking down of fear of organization.

The workers are now preparing to demand the California wage scale with the 60c minimum.

## Amend Memphis Pact

Memphis, Tenn., Nov. 2.—Federal Compress workers scored a substantial victory here by negotiating a supplementary agreement which changes their old phony contract into a solid union document.

**New supplementary agreement calls for union maintenance, seniority list, wage increases of 2½ to 5 cents an hour retroactive to Sept. 26, time and one-half for Sunday work and numbers of other provisions for improvement in working conditions.**

Expiration date of the contract was set at Sept. 1, 1942, instead of the 1943 date in the old contract and definite provision was made for opening the wage question again in six months.

*MORE ON CANNING*

## WIN BETTER CONTRACT

*By Clyde Johnson,*
*International Representative*

Sugar Land, Texas, Nov. 12.—An increase of five cents per hour in the wage of 140 employees of the Marshall Canning Company here was won Armistice Day by Local 102.

**In renewing its contract Local 102 also secured a change in the seniority clause to provide strict seniority instead seniority dependent upon the "endeavor" of the company.**

The Union Committee consisted of Alfred Goerlitz, president of Local 102, Annie Walla, recording secretary, and Joe Pierce.

The membership backed the committee 100 per cent during ten days of negotiations.

The company showed an earned surplus of $361,000 in the 1941 report, while its profit rate rose from 1.49% in 1940 to 2.48% in 1941.

Clyde Johnson, international vice-president, lead the negotiating committee.

## Local 3 Expands

Following the election victory at Royal Packing, Carmen Castro, Local 3 Press Agent, announced that the Local "is now all set to go on more victories than ever with the new streamlined Executive Board that is to lead UCAPAWA into all fields covered in Los Angeles."

New Board Members are:

Elmo Parra, Pres.; Sophie Leko, Vice-Pres.; Gus Gerber, Fin. Secy.; Kathryn Massoud, Treas.; Carmen Castro, Rec. Secy.; Armando Parra, Sgt.-at-Arms.

Trustees are William Phillips, Marian Avila, Octavio Cano, Pauline Harris and Pauline Vasquez.

Carmen Escobar, Joe Anderson, "Doc" Johnson and Frank Montecalvo, all Board Members at Large, complete the Local 3 Executive group.

## *Uncle Sam Buys Fruit*

Washington, D. C., Oct. 29.—The Department of Agriculture announced today plans for the purchase of the equivalent of nearly four million boxes of 1941-42-crop citrus fruits during the coming winter season. It is probable that the bulk of grapefruit purchases will be made in the form of canned grapefruit, grapefruit juice, and grapefruit pulp. The purchase of oranges will consist mainly of concentrated orange juice and orange pulp.

**AT MARKET PRICES**

The offers to purchase will be made in all citrus-producing areas by the Surplus Marketing Administration, and the prevailing market price will be paid when purchases are made.

**MILLIONS OF BOXES**

It is probable that present needs will require the use of up to 1,100,000 boxes of grapefruit for the preparation of canned grapefruit segments, an additional 1,250,000 boxes for canned grapefruit juice and about 600,000 boxes of oranges, while an additional 400,000 boxes will be needed for the manufacture of orange pulp.

**FOR HOME AND ABROAD**

These citrus products can be used for domestic distribution to public-aid families, for free school lunches, to meet Red Cross requirements for war refugee aid, or for transfer to other countries under the Lend-Lease Act. The requirements for the various uses change from time to time, and such changes will be reflected in modifications in the purchase operations.

**THE UPPER CRUST:** **"Father says I can be a dollar-a-year man when I gradute."**

# FIELD WORKERS

## Plug for Minimum Pay Law for Field Workers

**Washington, D. D., Oct. 30.—UCAPAWA is supporting a bill in Congress which would establish minimum wages for agricultural workers. The bill is the Langer Bill, S. 1435.**

**AG. WORKERS IN COLD**

At the present time workers on the land, with the exception of those in beet sugar, have no legal protection for at least a bare minimum wage.

The Federal Wage-Hour law under which many of our members get minimum wage protection, does not apply to agricultural workers.

**PROPOSED MINIMUM**

Under the terms of the Langer Bill the federal government would be prohibited from giving loans and other payments to farmers who refused to pay minimum wages and to obey rules against exploiting child labor.

The minimum wages would be set after public hearings by committees to be established by the Department of Agriculture.

**SITUATION DESPERATE**

Similar arrangements have already been worked out for sugar beet field workers and there is no reason why such a law should not be passed for all agricultural workers.

We know how very much field workers need wage protection. Our members in the cotton fields for example worked for 75c a day last year and only after a strong union compaign suceeded in getting cotton picking pay up to $1.50 to $2.00 a day this year.

**ALLEN REPORTS**

Ben Allen, UCAPAWA Legislative Representative in Washington has sent some general figures which underline how badly agricultural labor needs some protection.

Farm wages in 1934 were 40% below farm prices, in relation to the ratio which prevailed between the two in 1920.

Farm wages were 45% below factory wages in 1941, in relation to the ratio which prevailed between the two in 1920.

In August 1941 farm prices had reached parity with industrial prices, taking parity as the relation which prevailed between the two from 1910 to 1914.

These figures may be a bit hard to understand.

What they show is that farm wages have seriously lagged behind prices paid to farmers for their products and behind industrial wages.

## County Council Gets to Work

Agricultural Locals in one of the Arkansas counties have just established a County Central Council.

Regular officers as well as a County Defense Board have been elected.

Through the County Central all locals in the area will be strengthened and joint activities more easily planned.

**JOINT ACTIVITIES**

Each member is to pay 10c a month into the County Central.

Reports to the International on conditions and work will be made by the County Central for all the locals rather than each one trying to report seperately.

**The use of a county pass word will help protect the members from attack because of their union work.**

## $2.50 Per Week Pay; Oppression Must End

*By a Member of an Agricultural Local*

Keiser, Ark.—Ah, yes, this is a Great South.

You can drive along the highways, look out across the fields of cotton, corn, tobacco, etc., and see thousands of men and women and children working from 10 to 14 hours per day for the measly sum of 75c to $1.00 a day.

**CANNOT BUY NECESSARIES**

The average laboring man on the farm makes about $2.50 per week to buy food, clothes and medicine with, so he don't have enough to do all this with.

So if he has to have a Doctor the Doctor will have to go to see him on credit, and if he don't pay him they will call him a crook and a cheat, and if he asks for better wages the boss will give him a cussing and if he says anything back to the boss he will have him arrested.

**THROWN IN JAIL**

Then he will go to the county farm or in jail on the strength of rotten politics.

So this is a rule about all over the cotton belt.

There has got to be something done to bring the people of the South out from under the heel of oppression, and bring down great profit and raise the living standard of the laboring people.

**And I think we can run the rats out of here with UCAPAWA-CIO.**

*Editor's Note: This was written last August. Since then cotton picking pay was raised in many sections from 75c a day to the union scale for this season of $1.50 to $1.75 per day.*

## COURAGE IN SOUTH

*By Press Agent of an Arkansas Agricultural Local. Name cannot be published due to anti-union conditions.*

Wabbaseka, Ark., Oct. 28.—Jefferson County is rapidly being organized, with no help whatever, just those within its own county who give us so much courage.

Pine Bluff is doing wonderful in organizing and that gives us strength.

**MEMBERS VISIT HOMES**

Our members help wonderful by visiting homes. They have played an important part in bringing in new members.

The difficult problem is that they didn't see how anything could be done in the South, especially in Agriculture.

But they begin to see better now and are ready now to come on in.

Meetings every week brings your local members out and makes them more active.